



El Cerrito Community Newsletter

Volume Five:

Number 12

November, 2010



To the Residents of El Cerrito

Thursday, November 18, 2010 ECCC's Meeting "Redevelopment 101"

Come and learn about redevelopment and how it will affect the residents of El Cerrito as it pertains to El Cajon Boulevard, University Avenue and College Avenue. Our guest speaker is Mr. Tracy Reed, Project Manager, Redevelopment Agency. For the past 14 years Mr. Reed has worked in community planning and for the last nine years with economic redevelopment. Mr. Reed's responsibilities include working with the local Project Area Committee (PAC) as the Project Manager for the Crossroads Redevelopment Area. The Crossroads Area includes commercial zones in El Cerrito and the College area.

If you have wondered how the redevelopment process works and what it spends its money on and what the local Project Area Committee. We would suggest you mark this date on your calendars. Please bring along with you any questions for Mr. Reed.

This meeting will also include an opportunity for the El Cerrito Community Council's input for the Crossroad PAC's spending priorities. Think about improvements you would like to see along the major streets and in the commercial zones in this community, and come ready to contribute these ideas on November 18.

Save LOTS OF \$\$\$ - Get See's Candy Delivered to Your Door & Help the ECCC Raise Money

The holidays are getting closer and closer and it's time to think about your annual order of See's Candy from the ECCC! When we are watching our pennies, it's good to know that not only do you save on every item you buy, but purchasing your See's candy through our program helps the ECCC to raise money.

The ECCC gets about \$1 for every pound you buy – even if the pound is a Gift Certificate. ***PLUS you get it delivered to your door-step!*** No fighting crowds or trying to find a decent parking spot! Just fill out the order form in this newsletter, together with your check and mail it to the ECCC at ***P.O. Box 151268, San Diego, CA 92175-1268: The deadline for getting your order to us is Friday, November 29.*** We will deliver the candy to your door no later than ***Saturday 4th or Sunday, 5th December, 2010.*** See's Holiday catalogues will also be available at the November ECCC Meeting.

Volunteer(s) Needed – Help!!

We need someone or a group to volunteer to make the center piece table decorations (about 10 to 12 total) which are given to one lucky guest at each table. This is a very popular event and is a gift from the ECCC back to the community. We gave out Poinsettia Plants last year, which were very popular. Just put your creative hat on and let your creative abilities flow. The ECCC will pay for all supplies. Just E-mail jan.riley@cox.net or call her at 619-287-2460 to volunteer.

Thursday, December 17th, 2010 Is the ECCC's

Holiday Celebration Get-Together & Pot-Luck

Come one – come all! Everyone residing or working in El Cerrito is invited to our Annual Holiday Pot-Luck. If you own a business in the neighborhood, don't be shy, come and join us. If you have a new neighbor or one you have not met, this will be a great opportunity to introduce yourself and invite them to come and join us. Perhaps you have a neighbor who cannot get out by themselves at night and would love to participate in the festivities – offer them a ride or give us a call at 619-287-2460 and we'll arrange to bring them to the party and take them home.

Its party time! Wow! - do we have some special treats lined up for you and your family, so come hungry. A roast turkey plus cold drinks/coffee will be provided by the Board of Directors. All we ask is that you bring your favorite dish to share for about 10 people; either home made or from your favorite restaurant/store. A few suggestions are: vegetables, salads, potatoes, rice or pasta dishes; rolls/biscuits plus desserts. The feast starts at 7:00 PM. in the Parish Hall, so load up the kids, grandma, a neighbor or two and let's has a wonderful

community get-together for the holidays. See you there!

We also need donations to raffle-off. Last year we had bottles of wine, a wonderful wreath donated by the ECCC, and other goodies. If you have unwanted bottles of wine or spirits, or new unwanted gifts, we would appreciate them for the raffle. Call Jan Riley at 619-287-2460 to volunteer.

We will also hold our ever popular "split-the-pot" raffle. The winner takes home half of the total cash the ECCC receives from this special raffle.

October's ECCC's Meeting

The residents of El Cerrito had a wonderful opportunity to learn about local businesses at the October community meeting. Thanks, to the businesses that came to share their products and services:

Laylah's Patties and Jerk

5712 El Cajon Blvd.

Garden Fresh Grill and Smoothie

6165 El Cajon Blvd. in the Von's Shopping Center

It's Dunn Personal & Special Event Chef Services

www.itsdunnpersonalchef.com

Claire LiMandri, Avon Representative

www.youravon.com/cli-mandri

Thomas Ledford, representative from **County Supervisor, Ron Robert's** office also shared materials for County programs.

Please, remember local businesses when shopping and going out to eat. Successful businesses help to create a strong Community!

El Cerrito Enclave Project Review CACPB Recommends Denial of Permit Project Now Goes to the Planning Commission

At its October 13 meeting, the College Area Community Planning Board (CACPB) recommended that the City of San Diego deny a permit for the El Cerrito Enclave Project. This project (#72057) proposes to demolish the existing single-family home at 5402 Gilbert Street, subdivide the 0.62 acre lot and build 4 new single-family residences. Reasons for recommending denial include impacts on traffic and parking, large amounts of fill dirt required to level the lot, and a design better suited to mini-dorms or rooming houses than to families. Many residents from the surrounding neighborhood attended the meeting to express their objections.

Community input on the El Cerrito Enclave project includes a letter from the ECCC voicing many of the same objections included in the CACPB recommendation. This letter was approved by a vote of the active membership at the September 16 ECCC community meeting. The project now goes to the San Diego City Planning Commission for consideration.

Whether residents approve of this project, disapprove, or have some other comment, it is important for people to inform government representatives. You can express your position on this project by writing to

The City of San Diego Planning Commission

1222 First Ave, 4th floor

San Diego, CA 92101

Or email planningcommission@sandiego.gov

Subject: El Cerrito Enclave Project #72057

You can contact your City Council Member about this project by writing to:

Marti Emerald

7th District City Council Member

City Administration Building

202 C Street, MS #10A

San Diego, CA 92101

Or email martiemerald@sandiego.gov

Subject: El Cerrito Enclave Project #72057

The date for this project's review by the Planning Commission is not known at this time, but could come as early as some time this month. Send comments on this project as soon as possible. Watch for e-mail notices when this project comes up on the Planning Commission Agenda, or check the Planning Commission website at <http://www.sandiego.gov/planning-commission>.

The only way for elected or appointed representatives to know that this project, or any other issue, is important to the community is for residents to contact them.

Neighbors of the El Cerrito Enclave are circulating a petition urging the City to deny the request for a permit for this project. Residents interested in joining this petition drive should call Maurice Rios at (619) 708-1423. ***The petition is also available from the ECCC blog page. You can access the blog page by typing www.elcerritocommunitycouncil.blogspot.com into the address bar of your web browser.*** In addition to the petition, the blog page includes links to contact information for the Planning Commission and 7th District Council Member, Marti Emerald, the ECCC letter, and architectural plans for the project.

ECCC's Thank-You Letter to the Mid-City Police Department

"Dear Capt. McKinney: The members of the Board of Directors of the El Cerrito Community Council want to express our appreciation for the work that the Police have done to reduce disturbances in El Cerrito & the College Area during the past few months. We appreciate the hard work of the officers assigned to the patrol car dedicated to responding to disturbance calls: Officers Ramirez, Perdue, Sainsanoy and the SDSU officers who jointly staffed this patrol. We also want to thank the SDPD for its strong presence at the SDSU Rush Week detail, including officers Montoya, Luth, Brou, McGruder, Shumaker, Randolph, Perdue, Sainsanoy, Philips, McCullough, Doherty, Walker, Carey, Hunter, Schnautz, Roman, Felkins and Ramirez.

El Cerrito Community Council, P.O. Box 151268, San Diego, CA 92175-1268. (ECCC@cox.net) 619-287-2460

These programs clearly get the word out that excessive drinking & loud parties will not be tolerated in the surrounding communities. We've heard impressive statistics for citations and arrests from Officers Louie Roman and Jenny Hall, and the benefits of this effort are confirmed by reports from residents that neighborhoods are more pleasant and peaceful. Streets that had been disturbed by loud parties at all hours are now quiet again.

We request that you continue staffing a patrol dedicated to responding to disturbances throughout the SDSU semester. The benefits of responding aggressively to disturbances aren't limited to making neighborhoods more peaceful. Reducing the size and number of parties should also reduce young party goers' exposure to the risks of intoxication, including automobile accidents, assaults, and overdose. This program benefits health, safety, and quality of life for everyone involved. Carl Luster, For the Board of Directors of the El Cerrito Community Council"

Do you Know of a Community Resident Who May be in Special Need of Assistance with Home Repairs?

Rebuilding Together San Diego (RTSD) is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization and is accepting applications for **its** home renovation program for 2011.

RTSD provides minor home repair and home renovations to assist low-income homeowners who are senior, disabled, veterans or families with children. RTSD focus is on home repairs that provide for a healthy and safe living environment and ADA accessibility for those who are physically and financially unable to make the repairs themselves. All services are performed at no charge to qualifying and accepted applicants. RTSD work is done through the support and assistance of a volunteer workforce, corporate sponsorships and in kind donations.

Some say RTSD is like a mini-version of ABC's Extreme Home Makeover. **To apply to the program for home repair assistance, sponsor a project or volunteer please visit the RTSD website at: www.RebuildingTogetherSD.org, or e-mail: rtsd@rebuildingtogethersd.org.** You can also call 619 -231-7873 for more information.

Anna Orzel-Arnita will seek applications, at the ECCC's November meeting, for home Improvement assistance from Rebuilding Together San Diego.

Mid-City Police Dept's Phone Number

The number to report suspicious behavior and parties is 531-2000. Please remember to get reference/case #.

Newsletter Donations Needed!

14 residents answered our urgent calls for funds. "Thank you" to all of you who so generously came through for the printing of the ECCC Newsletter. We received a total of \$675 in donations from the following

residents: \$50 from Daisy & Beauregard Shenar on 55th, \$24 from Amadeus & miss Addie on Alice, \$25 from Elisa Ellis-MacLeod on El Cerrito. Christina Augsburger on 59th Street gave \$25 together with \$20 from Tarja Laurila on 58th Place. Christine von Spronsen of the College Animal Hospital gave \$250. Anonymous donations of \$100 from Trojan, \$50 on Atlanta, \$25 from Adelaide, Alice, 59th and Athens and \$20 from Madison. \$10 completely unknown, together with a Paypal donation of \$25. As always the community of El Cerrito comes forward to help us print the newsletter. Your help is more than truly appreciated. Again thank you one and all.

Results of Curb-Side Clean-up on Redland Place, Redland Drive & 55th Street

The ECCC received the following letter from our Councilmember, Marti Emerald, 7th District concerning the recent clean-up:

"November 1, 2010. Dear Neighbor: It is my pleasure to share the outstanding results of last month's curb-side Community Cleanup and Recycling event with residents living in this El Cerrito neighborhood, particularly those on Redland Place, Redland Drive and 55th Street.

My office teamed up with the City's Environmental Services Department and the El Cerrito Community Council to bring a special Community Cleanup and Recycling event on October 13th. The curb-side pick-up of unwanted items took place after the Community Garage Sale, allowing neighbors to easily dispose of any remaining, unwanted furniture and other items. **This successful cleanup removed a total of 4.80 tons of waste, including 4.11 tons of non-recyclables and .69 tons of recyclables, from your neighborhood!**

As your Councilmember, you have my commitment to continue working with you to solve problems and enhance the quality of life for the entire community. The City's Environmental Services Department and the El Cerrito Community Council also stand ready to assist and I encourage you to take advantage of both helpful resources:

- **Environmental Services, Solid Waste Code Enforcement: (858) 694-7000**
- **El Cerrito Community Council: eccc@cox.net**

It is my privilege to serve as your representative for the Seventh District on the San Diego City Council. If you need any assistance in the future, please feel free to contact my office at (619) 236-6677. Warm regards, Marti Emerald, Councilmember, Seventh District, City of San Diego"

Ms. Emerald's representative, Cynthia Harris, has spoken with Environmental Services about arranging a larger clean-up for ECCC residents when they schedule the next six-month period and hopefully to simultaneously capture some of the students moving out and leaving furniture, etc. behind. Details will be given as they become available.

El Cerrito Community Council, P.O. Box 151268, San Diego, CA 92175-1268. (ECCC@cox.net) 619-287-2460